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U.S. Dept. of the Interior

THE AMERICAN BISON IN THE UNITED STATES AND  
CANADA.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

TO THE SENATE FACTS IN RELATION TO THE PRESERVATION  
OF THE AMERICAN BISON IN THE UNITED STATES AND  
CANADA.

JULY 1, 1902.—Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and ordered  
to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, July 1, 1902.*

SIR: I am in receipt of Senate resolution of January 30, 1902—

That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture be directed to transmit to the Senate any facts which they possess with reference to the preservation in the United States, or the Dominion of Canada, of the buffalo or American bison; informing the Senate whether or not such animals are dying out or are on the increase; to what extent they are running wild or are being domesticated, and whether or not such as remain are of pure or mixed blood; and also informing the Senate whether or not any steps ought to be taken by the United States for the preservation from extinction of such animals.

In response thereto I have the honor to state that, at the time of the passage of this resolution, the facts in the possession of the Department in relation to buffalo in the United States were exceedingly meager, it was therefore necessary to resort to correspondence to secure the information desired; with that end in view, letters were addressed to the executives of the several States and Territories, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and copies of their respective replies regarding the buffalo are hereto appended.

From these reports it will be seen that the total number of buffalo or bison, both full and mixed blood, in the United States, is 1,143. Of these 72 are running wild, 50 being in the State of Colorado and 22 in the Yellowstone National Park. The number domesticated or in captivity, including full and mixed blood, is 1,071. The total number of pure-blooded animals in the United States is 968, and the mixed bloods 175.

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The total number of buffalo or bison in Canada is 669. Of these, 600 are pure blood, running wild, and 69 are in captivity. Of the latter, 44 are pure blood and 25 mixed blood.

In countries outside of North America it is estimated that there are 128 buffalo or bison all of which are believed to be in captivity.

Answering specifically the questions propounded in this resolution, it may be stated that the buffalo or bison running wild in the United States are rapidly diminishing in numbers, while those being domesticated, or in captivity, under proper climatic and other conditions, appear to be increasing in numbers.

The majority of the animals in captivity are owned by private persons, firms, and corporations; frequent changes in the ownership of the animals occur, some are exported from the United States and others are killed for their hides and heads, which are valuable.

In my judgment, steps should be taken by the United States for the preservation from extinction of the buffalo or American bison, and with that end in view I have submitted to Congress an estimate of \$30,000 for the purchase of buffalo and the corralling of them in the Yellowstone National Park. With these animals in a national reservation, under governmental supervision, it is believed that a herd of pure-blooded American bison may be domesticated, which will increase in numbers, and the herd now running wild in the park may be also benefited by the introduction therein of new blood.

Appended hereto is a tabulated statement showing the number of animals running wild and in captivity in the several States and Territories, as well as those in Canada and in countries outside of North America.

Very respectfully,

E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary.*

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF  
THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

*Statistics of American buffalo.*

Location.	Running wild— pure blood.	In captivity.	
		Pure bloods.	Hybrids.
United States:			
Alabama .....	0	0	0
Alaska .....	0	0	0
Arizona .....	0	0	0
Arkansas .....	0	0	0
California .....	0	15	0
Colorado .....	50	6	0
Connecticut .....	0	6	0
Delaware .....	0	0	0
District of Columbia .....	0	11	0
Florida .....	0	0	0
Georgia .....	0	3	0
Idaho .....	0	3	0
Illinois .....	0	13	0
Indiana .....	0	2	0
Indian Territory .....	0	0	0
Iowa .....	0	23	1
Kansas .....	0	5	0
Kentucky .....	0	0	0
Louisiana .....	0	0	0
Maine .....	0	2	0
Maryland .....	0	0	0
Massachusetts .....	0	27	0
Michigan .....	0	9	0
Minnesota .....	0	21	3

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Statistics of American buffalo—Continued.

Location.	Running wild— pure blood.	In captivity.	
		Pure bloods.	Hybrids.
United States—Continued.			
Mississippi .....	0	0	0
Missouri .....	0	3	0
Montana .....	0	366	70
Nebraska .....	0	2	0
Nevada .....	0	1	0
New Hampshire .....	0	110	0
New Jersey .....	0	0	0
New Mexico .....	0	0	0
New York .....	0	41	6
North Carolina .....	0	0	0
North Dakota .....	0	0	0
Ohio .....	0	7	0
Oklahoma .....	0	30	0
Oregon .....	0	0	0
Pennsylvania .....	0	19	0
Rhode Island .....	0	0	0
South Carolina .....	0	0	0
South Dakota .....	0	61	75
Tennessee .....	0	0	0
Texas .....	0	70	0
Utah .....	0	26	1
Vermont .....	0	0	0
Virginia .....	0	0	0
Wisconsin .....	0	10	19
Washington .....	0	3	0
West Virginia .....	0	0	0
Wyoming (Yellowstone National Park) .....	22	4	0
Total .....	72	896	175
Canada .....	600	44	25
Europe .....	0	114	14

Grand total in the United States..... 1,143  
 Grand total of buffalo or bison in the United States, Canada, and countries  
 outside of North America ..... 1,940

UNITED STATES.

ALABAMA.

STATE OF ALABAMA, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,  
 Montgomery, February 7, 1902.

SIR: The governor is this morning in receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, transmitting a copy of a resolution of the Senate touching certain information concerning the buffalo.

The governor directs me to advise you that there is not a buffalo or bison within the State of Alabama, and I am,

Very truly, yours,

JN. SAESON, *Private Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
 Washington, D. C.

ALASKA.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE,  
 Sitka, Alaska, March 14, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of February 3, with the inclosed copy of the Senate resolution in regard to the American buffalo. The habitat of these animals did not reach to

the Alaska coast in the southeast, nor have I learned that they ever came as far north as the main part of Alaska: that is, to the one hundred and forty-first meridian.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN G. BRADY,  
*Governor of Alaska.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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#### ARIZONA.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,  
*Phoenix, Ariz., February 12, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your favor of February 3, 1902, transmitting a copy of a resolution of the Senate, dated January 30, 1902, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for certain information concerning the buffalo or bison in the United States or in the Dominion of Canada, with a view to ascertaining what steps, if any, should be taken to preserve that species of animals from extinction, and to inform you that that there are no buffaloes in the Territory of Arizona, either in the wild state or in captivity.

Very respectfully,

JAMES S. STODDARD,  
*Acting Governor of Arizona.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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#### ARKANSAS.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, STATE OF ARKANSAS,  
*Little Rock, February 7, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your esteemed favor, and in reply beg to say that we have no buffalo, natural or otherwise, in this State.

I beg to remain, yours, very truly,

JEFF. DAVIS, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK, *Washington, D. C.*

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#### CALIFORNIA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
*Sacramento, March 17, 1902.*

SIR: By direction of the governor I have the honor to acknowledge in his behalf the receipt of your esteemed communication, dated March 5, 1902, with inclosures, wherein information is requested respecting the buffalo or bison in the State of California. Reference is made to a previous communication, dated February 3, 1902, but the governor regrets exceedingly that he did not receive said communication, hence his delay in replying thereto.

The governor has this day requested immediate information and a report from the State board of fish and game commissioners, and states

that as soon as the same is received he will with pleasure transmit the same for your consideration.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

W. J. FOLEY, *Private Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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[Telegram.]

SACRAMENTO, CAL., *8th.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary Interior, Washington, D. C.*

Governor absent from city; game commissioners report about 20 buffaloes in this State, in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Governor awaiting specific and more accurate report, which has not yet arrived.

N. J. FORLEY, *Private Secretary.*

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[Telegram.]

SACRAMENTO, CAL., *April 11, 1902.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.:*

State fish and game commissioners report that only herd of buffaloes known to be within State of California are in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco; report from secretary of Golden Gate Park commissioners, received by me to-day, states that there are 15 full-blooded buffaloes in the park which are the offspring of 3 buffaloes, 2 male and 1 female, brought from State of Montana.

HENRY T. GAGE,  
*Governor of California.*

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**COLORADO.**

STATE OF COLORADO, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Denver, March 14, 1902.*

SIR: Your favor of February 3, and also a letter from Thomas Ryan, acting secretary, under date of the 5th instant, came duly to hand, and I regret that I have not had opportunity for replying at an earlier date. I beg leave to submit the following as my view concerning the buffalo or bison in the United States, and the steps that should be taken by the Government to preserve this species of animal from extinction.

In the State of Colorado we have 5 buffalo in Lost Park, Park County, consisting of 2 cows, 1 yearling heifer, a 2-year-old bull, and 1 bull of considerable age. In addition to these there are between 40 and 50 bison in Routt County, near Rabbit Ear Range. These are all of the buffalo outside of captivity in the State. The only buffalo in captivity in the State consists of 6 bison in the City Park, Denver.

I have devoted considerable thought and study as to the best means of preserving these bison from total destruction, which now seems certain in the very near future. The result of my observation and study is that the buffalo have been reduced to such small numbers, and the inbreeding has become so marked and so persistent, and for such a length of time, that the calves now born are weak and unable to stand the rigors of our winter, and quite a number of them die at the age of 6 or 7 years without any apparent cause, unless it be the persistency of the breeding.

It would be possible for the Government to fence 30,000 or 40,000 acres near Rabbit Ear range, at probably a small expense, where these buffalo could be safely confined and yet have sufficient area to graze and obtain all the food and water they need. If in addition to this the Government would exchange the different bulls from one herd to another, I believe that a material improvement would be noticed, both in the increase in the number of calves and in the vigor of the offspring when born. Unless some such steps are taken, I believe that the next few years will mark the passing away of the last bison.

Very truly, yours,

JAMES B. ORNRAN, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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#### CONNECTICUT.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Hartford, February 11, 1902.*

SIR: Governor McLean has directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of February 3, requesting information regarding the buffalo, or American bison.

We understand that there are none of these animals within this State, and the governor has not at present any facts concerning the buffalo which would be of value to you.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN T. ROBINSON, *Executive Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing communication the following additional data relative to buffalo in Connecticut has been received from the Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution: Bridgeport, Conn., in possession of private owner, "Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show," pure-blood buffalo, 6.

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#### DELAWARE.

STATE OF DELAWARE, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Dover, Del., February 6, 1902.*

SIR: We have your communication of February 3, and in reply will say there are no buffaloes in the State of Delaware, either in public or private parks, that we are aware of. Hence, of course, can not

supply any information on the subject that would be of interest or advantage to Congress.

Very respectfully,

JOHN HUME, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**FLORIDA.**

STATE OF FLORIDA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Tallahassee, February 19, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 3d instant, inclosing a copy of resolution of the Senate of the 30th ultimo, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for certain information concerning the buffalo, or bison, in the United States or in the Dominion of Canada, with a view of ascertaining what steps, if any, should be taken to preserve the species of animal from extinction, requesting that I furnish your Department with such information as it may be possible for me to obtain regarding the buffalo in its natural state in the public parks or in private herds throughout the State of Florida, and I have to advise you that we have no buffalo in the public parks or in private herds in the State of Florida.

I have the honor to remain, with great respect, very truly, yours,  
W. S. JENNINGS, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**GEORGIA.**

STATE OF GEORGIA, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Atlanta, March 19, 1902.*

SIR: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 5th instant, inclosing copy of resolution adopted by the Senate of the United States, directing the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to transmit to the Senate any facts which they may possess relative to the preservation in the United States or Dominion of Canada of the buffalo, or American bison, etc.

In reply I beg to say that there are no buffalo in this State and hence there is no information on the subject matter of the resolution within my possession which I can communicate in response to the resolution.

I have the honor to be, very truly, yours,

A. D. CANDLER, *Governor.*

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

*Washington, D. C.*

**IDAHO.**

STATE OF IDAHO, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Boise, Idaho, February 10, 1902.*

SIR: I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 3d instant, inclosing copy of Senate resolution of January 30, asking for information con-

cerning the buffalo of the United States, and your own request that I furnish the Department with information regarding the buffalo in its natural state in the public parks, or in private herds throughout the State of Idaho. In reply I will say that there are no wild buffalo in this State, nor is there any band of mixed or full blood domesticated buffalo in the State.

Very respectfully, yours,

F. W. HUNT,  
*Governor.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—The Superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park, since the receipt of the above, has reported 3 buffalo at Henrys Lake, Idaho, owned by R. W. Rock.

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### ILLINOIS.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Springfield, February 14, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: The governor directs me to acknowledge your communication under date of February 3, and to send you a copy of a letter this day received from Mr. Reuben H. Warder, secretary of the Lincoln Park Commission, Lincoln Park, Chicago, the only place where it seems that buffalo are in Illinois.

Very respectfully,

JOHN OGLESBY,  
*Secretary to the Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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CHICAGO, *February 13, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to yours of the 8th I find that 1 buffalo was presented to the garden in 1869, and that about 1880 or 1881 a pair of buffalo came to this park, and these were the beginning of our present herd, which now consists of 13 head in good condition, believed to be absolutely pure blood. In 1895, 7 females, mostly in calf, went to Chemnitz, Saxony, of our collection.

These animals are in very good health and condition, but we are looking for a thoroughbred young bull to introduce new blood into our herd.

Mr. DeVry, head animal keeper, like myself, and also Mr. Charles Payne, of Wichita, Kans., who deals in native animals, do not know of any other buffalo in Illinois. At the sportsmen's show, February 3 to 22, at the Coliseum in this city, there are 3 buffalo belonging to the Page Wire Fence Company of Adrian, Mich. These are also said to be full blood. Am sorry I can not give you any other definite information.

Respectfully,

R. H. WARDER,  
*Secretary.*

Mr. JOHN OGLESBY,  
*Secretary to the Governor, Springfield, Ill.*

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### INDIANA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Indianapolis, February 7, 1902.*

SIR: Replying to the inquiry contained in your courteous communication of 3d instant, I have the honor of informing you that there

is not a bison or buffalo, either in its native state or in captivity, in the State of Indiana.

Respectfully,

M. T. DURBIN,  
*Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

BASS FOUNDRY AND MACHINE COMPANY,  
*Fort Wayne, Ind., February 18, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your favor of the 14th instant, and in reply would state that I have at present only two buffalo bulls. Both are as fine specimens as I have ever seen. Unfortunately, I lost my buffalo cow some months ago, but I am expecting to get two other cows in a short time. I have never had but the one cow, and unfortunately all her calves were males and I had to sell them to keep them from fighting. In fact, my cow was killed by accident in this way. I have not the time nor place to raise a large herd of buffalo, but from my experience with them it would not be a very difficult matter, with proper care, to raise a large herd.

Very respectfully,

J. H. BASS.

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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IOWA.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Des Moines, Iowa, February 10, 1902.*

SIR: I am directed by the governor to inform you that there are no herds of buffalo or bison in public parks or private herds in this State.

Yours, truly,

JOHN BRIAR, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Department of the Interior, Washington D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

BUFFALO CENTER, IOWA, *February 11, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Yours received. Was glad to be called on for some information. I have been receiving so much from the Government and had no chance to return any. I have 1 male buffalo.

Carl Lenander, Bancroft, Kossuth County, Iowa, has 10 head.

Hanson Brothers, Elkader, Clayton County, Iowa, have 8 head.

At present I do not know of any more, but will make an effort to find out. Any time I can do you any good I will be only too pleased

to do so. When you get full report out would like one. Do you have anything on the raising of quail? I am trying it. My antelope are doing fine. I have got on to the proper way of feeding them.

Yours, truly,

C. E. MALLORY.

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

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BANCROFT, IOWA, *February 22, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 17th instant at hand, and in reply beg to state that I own 10 full-blood buffaloes. I also own 8 Aberdeen-Angus cows, and 2 of them have been bred to a buffalo bull, but as yet I have not raised any hybrids. I would like some information on one-point. The Indians and half-breeds on the Flathead Reservation, Mont., tell me that buffalo cows carry their young ten months, while common cows only go nine months, and in breeding buffaloes to common cows so many of the cows die having calf for this reason, as the calf does not come when it should, the cow bloats up and very often dies. I should like further information on this point, as the common cows I have are valuable animals, and I do not wish to sacrifice them in an experiment. If you can give me any light on this subject, I shall reciprocate the favor whenever possible.

Very truly, yours,

C. J. LENANDER.

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,*  
*Washington, D. C.*

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KEOKUK, IOWA, *February 21, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your inquiry as to buffalo in Rand Park, in this city, I will say that we have 1 aged bull, full blood, and 1 yearling heifer, full blood, granddaughter of the bull.

These 2 are all that we have at present, as we sold 4 animals to Carl Hagenbeck last year. These 4 were shipped to Germany.

We have heard that there is a small herd somewhere in the northern part of this State and we have been trying to locate them. We do not wish to breed the two that we have together and are trying to see if we can not trade the female for another. If we succeed in locating the herd of which I speak, I will inform you of their whereabouts.

If I can be of any further service to you, I hope that you will not hesitate to call upon me.

Very truly, yours,

THEODORE A. CRAIG.

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,*  
*Washington, D. C.*



LUANA, IOWA, *March 8, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your letter of March 1 has been forwarded to us from Elkader, Iowa. Our home is Luana, Iowa. We have 8 full-blood female buffalo and 2 full-blood bulls and 1 three-fourths blood cow.

Would you please send us a report of the number of full-blood buffalo in the United States when you get it completed? I believe there is a man at Bancroft, Iowa, who has some. Also, Huber Brothers, at Cochrane, Wis., have a number of grades, but no full-blood females. I think they have a number of full-blood bulls.

Yours, respectfully,

BURGESS & HANSON,  
*Luana, Iowa.*

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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KANSAS.

TOPEKA, *February 10, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of yours of February 3, inclosing copy of Senate resolution relative to the American bison, and asking for information upon that question. I will try and furnish you such information as I can at the earliest practical moment.

Yours, very truly,

W. E. STANLEY.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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TOPEKA, *April 1, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of yours calling my attention to your communication of February 3 requesting information concerning the buffalo in the United States or Dominion of Canada with a view of ascertaining what steps should be taken by the Government to preserve that species of animal from extinction. I corresponded with some parties relative to the matter and among others with C. J. Jones, commonly known as "Buffalo Jones," and he replied that he had just been to Washington and given all the information he possessed to the Department there, and that would probably answer the purpose contemplated in your first letter. Consequently I did nothing. My information on this question is somewhat limited. I send you herewith a statement which contains such little information as I have been able to get, but I hope it may be of some benefit to you.

Yours, very truly,

W. E. STANLEY.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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DODGE CITY, KANS., *February 27, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Upon the receipt of your letter of February 10 in regard to buffalo, I immediately sat down and wrote to everyone I thought

could convey any information on the subject, and from what I have gathered I am satisfied there are no buffalo in the western and southern part of the State of Kansas. There are several in the parks at Denver, but none running wild on any of their old ranges in this State, Texas, Colorado, or New Mexico. Of course the Government officials know about how many are in the Yellowstone and other parks in the Northwest, as I understand they are under the supervision of the Government and are guarded by United States cavalry. I think the buffalo, like the red man, are dying out, and I most decidedly think the Government ought to take some steps to preserve them. Mr. Charles Goodnight, of Goodnight, Tex., has a herd of over 100—more than one-half of these are pure bred; the remainder are hybrids, a cross between the buffalo and the Galloway cow. They call them cataloes, but I am told they never mix, but keep wide apart in separate and distinct groups. The cataloes have the same hump as the buffalo, with shaggy hair—with jet black hair on some and light brown on others. All have longer horns than the buffalo. I inclose you a description of the buffalo when they were in their native state and as I knew them years ago.

Yours, very truly,

R. M. WRIGHT.

Governor W. E. STANLEY, *Topeka, Kans.*

Under date of February 26, 1902, Col. C. J. Jones (Buffalo Jones) wrote that he had been in Washington and had given all the information and statistics at his command concerning buffalo to the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institute, and, taking it for granted that this was the source from which the information was wanted, did not repeat it.

#### THE BUFFALO AND THEIR HABITS.

The "buffalo wallow" is caused by the buffalo pawing and licking the salty, alkali earth, and when the sod is once broken, the dirt is wafted away by the action of the wind. Then year after year, by more pawing and licking and rollings or wallowing by the animals, more wind wafts the loose dirt away, and soon there is a large hole in the prairie. Now there is a much more curious spectacle to be seen every spring, when the grass starts up—is even plainly to be seen when springtime arrives. These are rings on the prairie, and there are thousands of them; yes, millions. From the first of April until the middle of May was our wet season on the plains. This was always the case; you could depend upon it with almost the certainty of the sun and the moon rising at the proper time. This was the calving season of the buffalo. The buffalo, not like our domestic cattle, only rutted one month, neither more nor less, then it was all over.

I want to interpolate a statement here, that no man living I ever heard of or saw ever witnessed the act of copulation by the buffalo; it was all done after night. Then was the only time the buffalo ever made any noise or fuss, but at this season they would keep up a low roaring sound all night, and as a consequence the cows all calved in a month. This was the "wet month." At that time there were a great many gray wolves in the country as well as the little coyotes. While the cows were in labor the bulls kept guard to drive off the wolves, and in their beat made the rings referred to. I have had people argue with me that they were caused by lightning striking the earth, but it is certainly strange that lightning should only strike at these breeding places and nowhere else. Others would argue that Indians held their war dances there, which is just as absurd a statement as the other. Others even say that two bulls get their heads together in battle and push each other around and around in a ring until the circle is formed.

Buffaloes live to a great age. I have heard it from the best authority that some of them live to be 75 or 80 years old, and it is quite common for them to live 30 or 40 years. In fact, I think I have seen many a bull's head that I thought to be over 30 years old. After a storm, when we would go in search of our lost cattle, we

could tell the buffalo tracks from our cattle tracks, because the buffalo tracks would be going against the storm every time, while our domestic cattle would invariably go with it. You see the buffalo is much more thinly clad behind than in front, all of his coat nearly is on his head, shoulders, and hump, and while our cattle would turn tail the buffalo would naturally face the storm.

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BELVIDERE, KANS., *May 15, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: Replying to yours of the 5th instant, I have 3 buffalo (grown), 1 bull and 2 cows; also 2 calves just arrived, but do not know their sex. All full blood. This is all I own. I do not know whether there are others in Kansas or not. I keep them in a large range pasture and they are doing well. I doubt the wisdom of the Government trying to care for buffalo, as I understand so far they have been but poorly protected.

Very truly, yours,

F. ROCKEFELLER.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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**KENTUCKY.**

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Frankfort, February 8, 1902.*

SIR: Answering your esteemed favor of the 3d instant, asking for information "regarding the buffalo in its natural state in the public parks or in private herds within the State of Kentucky?" I am directed by the governor to say that there are no buffaloes within the State of Kentucky.

Very truly,

EDW. O. LEIGH,  
*Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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**LOUISIANA.**

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Baton Rouge, February 14, 1902.*

SIR: I am directed by the governor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 3d instant referring to the buffalo or bison, and in reply to inform you that there are none in this State.

Very respectfully,

LEON JASTREMSKI, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

## MAINE.

STATE OF MAINE, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Augusta, February 8, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 3d instant, asking information in regard to buffalo in the State of Maine, has been received at this department, and has been referred to the commissioners of inland fisheries and game, who will give you such facts as they may have in regard to the matter.

Very respectfully,

N. S. PURINTON,  
*Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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OFFICE COMMISSIONERS OF INLAND FISHERIES AND GAME,  
*Augusta, February 10, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your favor of the 3d, to the governor of Maine, transmitting copy of the resolution of the Senate of the United States asking for information with reference to the preservation of the buffalo or American bison in the United States, I beg to say that there are none in the State of Maine, neither wild nor in private parks or private herds.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEEVEY T. CARLETON, *Chairman.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

LEWISTON, BRUNSWICK AND BATH STREET RAILWAY,  
*Brunswick, Me., February 20, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your letter of the 18th instant, will say we do not at the present time own any buffaloes. It is true that we bought some of the Page Woven Wire Fence Company, one pair of which is now at our park, the property of Mr. A. F. Gerald.

The buffaloes which we have owned, 3 in number, a pair with calf 9 months old, were sold by us last fall to the New York Zoological Society, and are now, we believe, at Bronx Park, New York City.

We think the above are all the buffaloes in the State of Maine.

Yours, truly,

M. H. BLACKWELL, *Treasurer.*

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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## MARYLAND.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Annapolis, Md., February 13, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of February 3, with inclosure, and I beg to say in reply

that after making inquiry on the subject there are no buffalo or American bison in this State.

Very respectfully,

JOHN WALTER SMITH,  
*Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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MASSACHUSETTS.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Boston, February 11, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3d instant requesting information concerning the buffalo or bison located in this Commonwealth, and to say in reply that so far as can be ascertained by the fish and game commissioners of Massachusetts, the only buffalo in this State are those on the estate of Hon. William C. Whitney, which embraces October Mountain, so called, in Berkshire County. Mr. Whitney has now 24 buffaloes of pure blood, 9 of which were brought from Wyoming in 1897, and the others are native to this State, having been born on Mr. Whitney's estate. So far as can be learned there are no buffaloes on any of the State or metropolitan park reservations.

I am, yours, very truly,

W. M. CRANE.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

NEW YORK, *March 18, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of March 10, Mr. Whitney wishes to say that he has 26 buffalo at his place at Lenox, Mass.—10 males and 16 females. He does not know of any other buffalo in Massachusetts.

Very, truly yours,

THOS. J. LIGAN,  
*Private Secretary William C. Whitney.*

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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LENOX, MASS., *March 20, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Hon. W. C. Whitney has on his game preserve in the town of Washington, Mass., near Lenox, 26 buffaloes—all full bloods.

Yours, etc.,

THOS. POST, *Agent.*

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

LITTLETON, MASS., *February 26, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: In answer to your inquiry of the 17th, in regard to buffaloes, will say that my brother, Carlton D. Richardson, of West Brookfield, Mass., has 1 full-blood buffalo cow, 5 years old. We have been negotiating with the Page company, of Adrian, Mich., but have not as yet purchased any of them.

The only other buffalo in the State that I know of are in Mr. Whitney's park at Washington, Mass. (Post-office address Lenox, Mass.)

I shall be pleased to receive a copy of your report when issued.

Very truly,

H. E. RICHARDSON,  
*Superintendent Public Schools of Acton,  
Littleton, and Westford.*

DR. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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**MICHIGAN.**

STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
GAME AND FISH WARDEN DEPARTMENT,  
*Portland, February 12, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 3d instant to the governor of this State has been referred to me for answer. I have pleasure in informing you, in accordance with your request, that we have no buffalo in its natural state or in private herds in this State. The only specimens we have are held in Belle Isle Park, a public park of the city of Detroit, where they have 3—1 male, 1 female, and 1 female calf. The fact that they are breeding in captivity would indicate that there is hope of retaining and perpetuating this particular holding.

I have the honor to remain,

Very respectfully, yours,

GRANT M. MORSE, *Warden.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
GAME AND FISH WARDEN DEPARTMENT,  
*Portland, March 10, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your favor of the 24th ultimo, would say the 3 buffalo held in the Belle Isle Park are reported to me as full blooded and very fine specimens. Upon further investigation I learn that the Page Woven Wire Fence Company, of Adrian, Mich., have 2 fine specimens of buffalo bulls, 3 very fine cows and 1 yearling calf. The largest bull weighs a little over 2,000 pounds, and is claimed by experts to be the finest specimen in the United States to-day. These specimens are all thoroughbreds.

Very respectfully, yours,

GRANT M. MORSE, *Warden.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

## MINNESOTA.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*St. Paul, February 8, 1902.*

SIR: I am this day in receipt of a copy of the resolution of the Senate calling upon your department for certain information concerning the buffalo or bison in the United States or the Dominion of Canada, and in response thereto permit me to inform you that in the State of Minnesota there is but one herd. This is owned by James J. Hill. It consists of 24 in number, all of which are of pure blood with the exception of 3.

Respectfully,

S. R. VANSANT,  
*Governor State of Minnesota.*

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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## MISSISSIPPI.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Jackson, Miss., February 10, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 3d instant, relative to information concerning the buffalo, and in reply I beg to say that there are not now, nor have there been within the recollection of the present generation, any herds of wild buffalo, or any of the animals in captivity, in the State of Mississippi.

Very truly,

A. H. LONGINO, *Governor.*

HON. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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## MISSOURI.

COLUMBIA, MO., *February 11, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: Your circular letter of the 3d instant, addressed to the governor of the State of Missouri, concerning "The buffalo, or bison, in the United States," has been referred to this department for answer. I beg to state, so far as I know, there are no buffaloes in the State outside of the Zoological Gardens of St. Louis.

The Gardens are under the charge of F. L. Ridgeway, commissioner of parks, St. Louis, Mo.

Yours, truly,

GEO. R. ELLIS, *Secretary.*

HON. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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PARK DEPARTMENT,  
*St. Louis, February 27, 1902.*

SIR: Replying to your letter of the 24th instant, inquiring as to the number of buffalo in the Forest Park Zoological Gardens, the com

missioner directs that I say we have but 3—2 male and 1 female, full blood, born in captivity—and they are in fair condition.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN L. DUFFY, *Chief Clerk.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**MONTANA.**

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

*Helena, Mont., February 10, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, inclosing resolution of the Senate dated the 30th ultimo, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for certain information concerning the buffalo, or bison, in the United States or Dominion of Canada.

I have this day transmitted your letter to the State game and fish warden, with the request that he report upon the matter at as early a date as possible, and upon receipt of the same it will be forwarded to your address.

Very truly,

J. K. TOOLE, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

*Helena, Mont., March 19, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your inquiry under date of February 3, 1902, relative to the number of bison and buffalo in public parks and in private herds throughout this State, I have the honor to inclose you herewith a report upon the matter furnished this office by the State game and fish warden.

Trusting that the information will meet all requirements, and holding myself in readiness to be of any further service I am able, should further data be necessary, I am, sir,

Very truly,

J. K. TOOLE, *Governor.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

*Washington, D. C.*

HELENA, MONT., *March 18, 1902*

SIR: Regarding your letter of February 10, with letters of Secretary of the Interior inclosed, asking for such information about the buffalo of this State as I might be able to secure, I wish to say that I have the following to report:

*C. W. Conrad & Co., Kalispell, Mont.*

	Number.	Price.
Bulls .....	8	\$375
Cows .....	17	500
Two-year-old heifers .....	4	500
Calves .....	9	500



These are all "full-bloods," and are kept in a pasture about 1 mile from the city of Kalispell, and they are in fine condition.

On the Flathead Reservation are the following herds:

Charles Allard .....	33
Joe Allard .....	35
Michael Pablo .....	110

These figures are not perfectly accurate, and may vary somewhat either way. These herds are more or less "mixed bloods," and are in fairly good condition.

Maj. John Pitcher, acting superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park, reported to me as follows on the buffalo in the park:

Bulls .....	8
Cows .....	10
Calves .....	4

The Major states "that the buffalo are very shy and that it was difficult to fix their number accurately, but it is quite likely there may be a few more."

I can find no evidence of any buffalo or bison running wild, and am confident that they are entirely extinct in this State.

Very respectfully,

W. F. SCOTT,  
*State Game and Fish Warden.*

Hon. Jos. K. TOOLE,  
*Governor of Montana, Helena, Mont.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

RONAN, MONT., *February 17, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In regards to your inquiry in regard to buffalo, my herd comprises 330 head full blood; 30 of these are owned by C. Allard, of this place, 30 are owned by J. Allard out of this herd. There is also 30 head at an inclosure, Kalispell, owned by Conrad Bros., formerly from my herd. I have also 70 head three-fourths to one-half breeds. They are kept separated from full bloods; can not reach either. I will cheerfully give you any information.

Respectfully, yours,

M. PABLO.

DR. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

**NEBRASKA.**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Lincoln, Nebr., February 8, 1902.*

ESTEEMED SIR: Replying to your communication under date of February 3, 1902, making inquiry concerning the condition of the buffalo in Nebraska, I am directed by Governor Savage to say that the buffalo in its natural state can no longer be found in Nebraska, and so far as this State is concerned is practically extinct.

There are 2 in Riverview Park, Omaha, Nebr., and these are the only known of this species of animal in the State.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, yours,

R. J. CLANCEY,  
*Secretary to the Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

## NEVADA.

STATE OF NEVADA, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Carson City, Nev., February 18, 1902.*

SIR: Your letter transmitting resolution of the Senate relative to the preservation of the buffalo or American bison received. In reply, I will state that the buffalo never has, within the knowledge of the earliest explorers nor by Indian tradition, been an occupant of the country now known as the State of Nevada. Mr. John Sparks, of Reno, this State, has a few head in his park, more as an attraction than anything else, which I think comprise all the species in the State. The animal having been so prominently identified with and essentially useful to the pioneers of our country, it would, in my judgment, not only be a graceful act, but also a wise course in a business point of view, to provide by law against their extermination and for future preservation and propagation also.

Very respectfully,

RENO HOLDFADLER, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, March 11, 1902.*

SIR: Under date of the 3d ultimo the Department addressed a communication to the governor of Nevada, requesting to be advised as to the existence of buffalo in that State. On the 18th ultimo he replied that no buffalo were known to exist in Nevada, except a few head in your park, and suggested that inquiry be made to you in regard to the matter.

Inviting your attention to a copy of Senate resolution (herewith inclosed) calling on this Department for information in regard to buffalo, I have to suggest that you will favor the Department with such report as may be practicable for you to make regarding the buffalo in your park, especially as to the number of same, and whether male or female and half or full blood.

It is requested that any report you find possible to make on this subject be forwarded to the Department at once.

Very respectfully,

THOS. RYAN, *Acting Secretary.*

Mr. JOHN SPARKS, *Reno Nev.*

RENO, NEV.

DEAR SIR: My buffalo all dead but one cow; they died from anthrax, and I think were kept too fat and did not get exercise enough. This cow is the only buffalo in the State of Nevada, and comes from the Guadalupe Park, in Texas.

JNO. SPARKS.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Lancaster, February 7, 1902.*

MR. SECRETARY: In answer to yours of 3d instant, as to buffalo in New Hampshire, I have to say that none exist except in Blue Mountain Park, founded by the late Austin Corbin and now owned by his heirs. In that I am told there are from 90 to 100. A letter to the superintendent, Newport, N. H., would doubtless bring one telling you of the exact number.

Most respectfully,

CHESTER B. JORDAN, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

NEWPORT, N. H., *February 12, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 10th received. In reply will say that I have this day forwarded your letter to George S. Edgell, 192 Broadway, New York City, as he, Mr. Edgell, being one of the owners of the Blue Mountain Park, can answer your inquiry in regard to buffalo better than I can.

Yours, truly,

GEO. M. WOODBURY,  
*Superintendent Blue Mountain Park.*

Hon E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN FOREST ASSOCIATION,  
*New York, February 14, 1902.*

MY DEAR MR. HITCHCOCK: Your esteemed favor of the 10th instant (addressed to the superintendent of Blue Mountain Park, Newport, N. H.), inclosing copy of the Senate resolution of January 30, has duly reached me.

Replying, I am happy to say that we have in our Blue Mountain Forest Park, Sullivan County, N. H., a herd of 110 pure-blood buffalo, which is increasing steadily.

We had rather bad luck last spring in losing some of the calves, but I think it arose from the fact that the cows were not properly fed before being turned out. The year before there were 23 calves born on the range, of which we saved 22.

Some six years ago the late Mr. Corbin loaned to the city of New York 25 buffalo for exhibition at the Zoological Park, but on account of insufficient range, improper food and treatment, as near as we can judge, the experiment proved disastrous. About one-half of the number died. The others did not appear to be in a healthy condition, and fearing that they might contaminate our larger herd, we had them killed.

I am informed by those who were familiar with the buffalo on the plains that ours in captivity have increased in stature nearly or quite 10 per cent. Certainly the specimens we have are large and very fine. Our herd ranges over an area of about 22,000 acres from the time they can find food in the early spring until the snow is on the ground. After that time they are brought into smaller inclosures, where they are fed with hay and kept in restraint until the following spring.

I shall be pleased to answer any other questions you might suggest if this does not give the desired information.

Very sincerely, yours,

GEO. S. EDGELL,  
*Secretary and Treasurer.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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**NEW JERSEY.**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,  
*Executive Department, February 6, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your favor of February 3, requesting information as to whether the buffalo in its natural state appears in the public parks or private herds in the State of New Jersey.

In reply, I beg to state that there are no buffalo in the State of New Jersey in its natural state, nor do I know of any in the public parks or private herds.

Yours, very respectfully,

FRANKLIN MURPHY.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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**NEW MEXICO.**

TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE,  
*Santa Fe, February, 18, 1902.*

MR. SECRETARY: I am in receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, inclosing a copy of a resolution of the Senate dated the 30th ultimo, calling upon you for certain information concerning the buffalo or bison in the United States or the Dominion of Canada, with a view to ascertaining what steps, if any, should be taken to preserve that species of animal from extinction, and calling upon me for such information as it may be possible to obtain regarding the buffalo in its natural state in the public parks or private herds throughout the Territory of New Mexico.

Upon a thorough investigation I am unable to find that there is a single buffalo within the boundaries of the Territory of New Mexico.

I have the honor to be,

Your very obedient servant,

MIGUEL A. OTERO,  
*Governor of New Mexico.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

NEW YORK.

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Albany, February 6, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, requesting information concerning buffalo and bison in the public parks or private herds in the State of New York, and have referred your letter to the forest, fish, and game commission for information.

Very truly, yours,

B. B. ODELL.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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FOREST, FISH, AND GAME COMMISSION,  
*Albany, N. Y., February 7, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of inquiry as to the existence of buffalo in New York State, I am advised by the superintendent of forests that there are no native buffalo here. The only specimens of the animal are in the New York City Zoological Garden.

Respectfully, yours,

JOHN D. WHISK, *Assistant Secretary.*

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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[Postal card.]

FOREST, FISH, AND GAME COMMISSION,  
*Albany, N. Y., February 12, 1902.*

Hon. THOS. RYAN,  
*Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.:*

Your letter asking about bison in New York park is referred to Professor Hornaday for answer. The commission has no knowledge of the park. Our jurisdiction extends only over wild lands of the State.

Very respectfully,

JOHN D. WHISK, *Asst. Secretary.*

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NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL PARK,  
*New York, February 13, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of inquiry to the forest, fish, and game commission of this State regarding the number of buffaloes in the New York City Zoological Garden, I beg to say that the New York Zoological Park herd contains 14 buffaloes, of which 7 are males and 7 are females. The Central Park menagerie also contains 3 buffaloes, and Prospect Park, Brooklyn, exhibits 2 more, making a total of 19

for New York City. There are, in addition to the above, 11 head at Glen Island, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Yours, very truly,

W. T. HORNADAY, *Director.*

Hon. THOMAS RYAN,

*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY,  
*New York, March 6, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Immediately upon receipt of your letter of February 24, inquiring regarding the buffaloes in New York City and vicinity, I immediately addressed a letter to Mr. John H. Starin, owner of the buffaloes at Glen Island, requesting him to inform me, on your account, how many of his animals are of pure blood and how many are of mixed breed. I regret to say that I have received no reply to this communication.

All the buffaloes in the National Zoological Park, 14 in number; in Central Park, 3, and in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, 2, are of pure breed.

Of those at Glen Island, it is my impression that about one-third of them are of mixed breed.

Regretting the fruitless delay that has ensued on account of Mr. Starin's failure to reply, I remain,

Yours, very truly,

W. T. HORNADAY,  
*Director of the Zoological Park.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

OFFICE OF THE PARK COMMISSIONERS,  
*Buffalo, N. Y., February 10, 1902.*

MY DEAR DR. BAKER: Your letter relating to bison at hand, and contents noted.

Our herd is composed of 5 full-bloods, as follows: Two cows received Goodnight, Tex., February 14, 1896, supposed to be in their fourth year when received; 1 bull from Chicago Zoo, received June 20, 1899, 3 years old in August, 1899; 1 heifer calf born October 19, 1900, and 1 bull calf born June 9, 1901. The Chicago bull is supposed to have been sired by Hornaday's "Big Bismark." There were 3 cows in the shipment from Texas in 1896, 1 of which was traded to Hagenbeck, Hamburg, Germany, for the Chicago bull. She was shipped from here June 21, 1899, and went to Germany.

Hoping this will help you in your work, I remain,

Yours, truly,

FRANK A. CRANDALL, JR.,  
*Curator Zoo, Buffalo, N. Y.*

DR. FRANK BAKER,

*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

THE STARIN TRANSPORTATION LINES,  
*New York, March 4, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In response to your communication of the 24th ultimo, relative to the number of buffaloes in the different herds in this country, I beg to inform you that my herd consists of 6 full-bred bulls, 11 full-bred cows, 1 half-bred cow, 3 three-quarter-bred bulls, 2 three-quarter-bred cows.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN H. STARIN.

DR. FRANK BAKER,

*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
 Washington, D. C.*

NEW YORK ZOOLOGICAL PARK,  
*New York, February 13, 1902.*

DEAR DR. BAKER: In regard to the number of buffaloes in this part of the world, I beg to say that we have now 14 head—7 males and 7 females—having absorbed the 3 owned by Mr. David J. Gardiner as a deposit. I imagine they will remain here indefinitely. We have no hybrids, and intend to steer clear of them. There are now only 2 buffaloes in Central Park, 1 having died last week; 1 in Van Cortland Park, and 2 in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, as shown by your list.

There are 5 buffaloes in the city park at Keokuk, Iowa, and 2 at Littleton, Mass., owned by Mr. H. E. Richardson. I think the Conrad herd, at Kalispell, contains 35 head, instead of 30—at least that is what Professor Elrod wrote me. Six cows were sold, not long since, from the Allard herd, to parties in Iowa, and 8 bulls were sent to Tacoma to be butchered. Two were bought by Mr. John Rowley, of the Central Park Museum, and killed for mounting in some museum.

When I was called upon, last week, by the superintendent of the Canadian National Park at Banff, he stated 30 as the number of buffaloes in that herd.

I return herewith your list, and will be very glad indeed of a copy of it when you have fully completed it.

Yours, very truly,

W. T. HORNADAY, *Director.*

DR. FRANK BAKER,

*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
 Washington, D. C.*

NORTH CAROLINA.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Raleigh, February 7, 1902.*

SIR: His excellency the governor requests me to say to you, in reply to your recent inquiry concerning the buffalo and bison, that there is not a single buffalo or bison in this State, and probably has not been in the last thirty or forty years.

Very truly, yours,

P. M. PEARSELL, *Private Secretary.*

HON. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**NORTH DAKOTA.**

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Bismarck, February 15, 1902.*

SIR: Replying to your favor of February 3, regarding certain information desired by the Senate in regard to buffalo or American bison, I beg to inform you that there are no buffalo in the natural state or in public parks or private herds in the State of North Dakota of which I have any knowledge or about which I have been able to obtain any information.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

FRANK WHITE, *Governor.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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**OHIO.**

STATE OF OHIO, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Columbus, February 13, 1902.*

SIR: Replying further to your favor of the 3d instant, in which you make inquiry concerning the buffalo extant in the State of Ohio, I beg to forward you the inclosed letter from Mr. Williams, secretary of the Cincinnati Zoological Company, addressed to Hon. Julius Fleischmann, the mayor of the city of Cincinnati. As far as can be ascertained by this department, the buffalo in the zoological garden of Cincinnati are the only ones in this State.

Very truly, yours,

JNO. K. WASH.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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THE CINCINNATI ZOOLOGICAL COMPANY,  
*Cincinnati, Ohio, February 11, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to the attached correspondence, will say that we have 7 head of full-breed buffalo in this garden, and we are breeding the same. None are for sale from this herd, as we consider it the best blood in the United States at this time.

Yours, truly,

C. L. WILLIAMS, *Secretary.*

Hon. JULIUS FLEISCHMANN,  
*Mayor, City.*

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**OKLAHOMA.**

TERRITORY OF OKLAHOMA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Guthrie, March 8, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Yours of February 3d, directed to the governor, asking for information concerning the buffalo or bison in this portion of the United States, was duly received, and proper steps were taken to obtain the information you desired.

After investigating said matter we find that the last of the wild buffalo were caught near the New Mexico line some fifteen years ago,



and from the best information that we are able to obtain there are only four in the Territory, now located in Pawnee County and belonging to Pawnee Bill.

Very truly, yours,

C. A. MCBRIAN, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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TERRITORY OF OKLAHOMA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Guthrie, March 22, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Yours of March 12, asking this office for information concerning the bison or buffalo in Oklahoma, received, and in reply thereto I have to inform you that there are at the present time four full-blooded buffalo or bison in Pawnee County, Okla., the only ones in the Territory to the knowledge of this office.

Very truly, yours,

C. A. MCBRIAN, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. THOMAS RYAN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

EDENTON, N. C., *May 13, 1902.*

MY DEAR SIR: I have 4 full bloods with my show and 26 head of buffalo on my buffalo ranch at Pawnee, Okla. It is my intention to try to increase this herd. I know of no buffalo with travel shows excepting those with Buffalo Bill and the one with Ringling Bros., of which you already have account. I am interested in the subject and any information or service I can render, you have but to command me.

Trusting you will excuse my delay, I am,

Yours, most truly,

G. W. LILLIE ("PAWNEE BILL").

Dr. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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OREGON.

STATE OF OREGON, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Salem, February 13, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt at the executive office of yours of the 3d instant, transmitting copy of a resolution of the United States Senate calling for information concerning bison in the United States.

In reply I have to say that no bison herds are to be found in Oregon.

With great respect, I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

T. T. GEER, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

PENNSYLVANIA.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Harrisburg, March 7, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your letter of recent date addressed to Governor Stone asking for certain information concerning the buffalo or bison in the United States, I beg to inform you that this correspondence has been referred to the State game commission for consideration and reply.

Very truly, yours,

EDGAR C. GERWIG, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. THOMAS RYAN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR,  
*Philadelphia, March 13, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 11th instant transmitting copy of resolutions of the Senate of the United States inquiring for statistics as to the herd of buffalo in the zoological gardens in this city has been referred to Mr. Brown, superintendent of the gardens.

Very truly, yours,

A. R. H. MORROW, *Mayor's Secretary.*

THOMAS RYAN, Esq.,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA,  
FAIRMOUNT PARK,  
*Philadelphia, March 14, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your request forwarded to us from the mayor, I have to say that we have 5 male and 6 female buffalo in our garden, all of which are of full blood and bred here.

Respectfully,

ROBERT D. CARSON.

Hon. THOMAS RYAN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
*Pittsburg, March 24, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your inquiry of March 11, relative to buffalo or American bison, would say that this city has at the Highland Park Zoological Garden 3 pure-bred American bison or buffalo, namely, 1 male 7 years old, 1 female 6 years old, and 1 male 2 years old. The young male is the calf of the other two animals, and was born in captivity at the Zoo.

Respectfully, yours,

J. GREY McCANDLESS,  
*Director of Department of Public Works.*

Hon. THOMAS RYAN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing, the following additional data has been received from the Superintendent of the National Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA,  
*Philadelphia, February 12, 1902.*

MY DEAR BAKER: We have at present 13 buffalo; 6 males, 7 females, all full bred.

\* \* \* \* \*

Yours, sincerely,

ARTHUR ERWIN BROWN.

DR. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, BUREAU OF PARKS,  
*Pittsburg, Pa. [No date; received February 14, 1902.]*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 10th instant just received. In reply to the information asked for, would state that we have 3 full-blooded buffalos at our zoo, 2 being bulls and 1 a cow.

We are always glad to give you any information which we possess, and would be pleased to have you again pay us a visit, as you did in 1900.

Truly, yours,

ERNST TREETOW, *Keeper.*

DR. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

MONTEBELLO KENNELS, GREAT DANES,  
T. D. M. CARDEZA, OWNER,  
*Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa., February 24, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In answer to your communication of the 21st instant, we have 2 bulls and 1 cow buffalo, all full blooded. The cow was purchased from Page Wire Fence Company, and was with calf when bought. Said calf is one of the bulls above mentioned. The large bull was purchased through E. S. Schmid, Washington, D. C., and I think came from New York Zoo. He can no doubt inform you. We have no mixed blood, as we intend to breed full blood only.

Do not know of any buffalo south of points mentioned in your letter.

Yours, truly,

T. D. M. CARDEZA.

DR. FRANK BAKER,  
*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

**RHODE ISLAND.**

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Providence, March 17, 1902.*

SIR: Acknowledging the Department's communication making inquiry concerning the buffalo or bison in Rhode Island, Governor

Kimball has referred the same to the State census bureau for the information required.

I have the honor to be, sir, most respectfully, yours,

CHARLES H. HOWLAND,  
*Executive Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington.*

**Note.**—No further communication has been received from the governor.

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#### SOUTH CAROLINA.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Columbia, February 10, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your letter of the 3d, inclosing a resolution of the Senate dated the 30th ultimo, Governor McSweeney directs me to say that there are no buffaloes or bison in this State, and there have not been for a good many years, either running wild or domesticated.

Yours, very truly,

E. H. HULL, *Private Secretary.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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#### SOUTH DAKOTA.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Pierre, February 10, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 3d instant at hand. In reply will give you the following statement of facts obtained from Stephen A. Travis, of this city, who for twenty years has been a resident of this part of the country, and who is personally familiar with the facts.

Some time in 1880 or 1881, Fred Dupree, an old French trapper, who lived on Cheyenne River, recognizing the fact that the buffalo herds of the Northwest were becoming practically extinct, started out with a party of Indians and half-breeds and in the vicinity of Slim Butte, in the northwest part of South Dakota, captured three or four buffalo calves out of one of the small herds still ranging in that section. He brought them to his ranch on Cheyenne River, where they were protected and allowed to roam at will from that time until about one year ago. During this time he had accumulated from this beginning a herd of about 60 full-blood buffaloes and about the same number of half-breeds.

On the death of Dupree, and in the settlement of the estate, this herd was sold to Mr. James Philip, of Fort Pierre. He constructed a large pasture near Fort Pierre, surrounded by a fence 7 feet high built of woven and barb wire, in which he placed the full bloods, and allowed the mixed bloods to run with his large herd of cattle on the range. All the full bloods are in this pasture, with the exception of 1 bull, which has always refused to be driven from his accustomed range, and is now running with the half-breeds.

This, I am informed, is the largest herd in the United States. Of the millions of buffaloes that roamed over the fertile prairies of the Dakotas, feeding upon the famous buffalo grass, to-day none remain in South Dakota except the small herd above described.

I hope the United States Government will plan to preserve the American bison from becoming extinct.

I have the honor to remain, yours, very respectfully,

CHARLES N. HERREID, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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FORT PIERRE, S. DAK., *February 22, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Replying to your favor, the 18th ultimo, will say that I own 61 buffalo (pure bred). They are running in a pasture 8 miles above here. As to part bloods, I can't say how many, as they are running on the open range, but will gather them this spring. Seventy-five head would be a conservative estimate.

Yours truly,

JAMES PHILIP.

P. S.—I know of no others in this State.

Dr. FRANK BAKER,

*Superintendent National Zoological Park,  
Washington, D. C.*

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#### TENNESSEE.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, STATE OF TENNESSEE,  
*Nashville, February 7, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 3d instant, inclosing resolution passed by the United States Senate, calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for certain information concerning the buffalo and American bison, is received.

In reply I beg to inform you that there are none in the State of Tennessee, either domestic or wild, nor have there been in this generation, so far as I know.

Ever glad to comply with any request you may make concerning affairs here, I am,

Yours, very truly,

BENTON McMILLAN.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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#### TEXAS.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Austin, Tex., April 5, 1902.*

SIR: Replying to your favor of the 28th ultimo, requesting such information as it might be possible to obtain regarding the buffalo in its natural state, in the public parks or in private herds throughout the

State of Texas, I have to say from the best information I have been able to obtain that there is not a wild buffalo in this State, and that the only domesticated herd of buffalo in Texas is that owned by Mr. Charles Goodnight, and running in his park near Goodnight Station, in the Panhandle, on the Fort Worth and Denver Railroad. The pure-blood buffalo in this herd are estimated at 75, running together in the same park with a large number of crosses. Besides this herd, it is believed that there is no other buffalo in the State of Texas, the last one being killed in 1890.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH D. SAYERS,  
*Governor of Texas.*

The SECRETARY OF INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

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GOODNIGHT, TEX., *April 16, 1902.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK:

In reply to yours of 11th will say, I wrote some gentlemen in the governor's office some while ago in regard to buffalo. While I have much to learn about those animals yet, I have learned, of course, a great deal in regard to crossing; if the Government is interested in this I would be pleased to give it to them. I have from 60 to 70 buffalo of all sex and sizes. I think some 17 bulls and the rest cows and heifers. A number of hybrids for running from one-half to one-eighth breed. If you wish further information please let me know.

I remain yours,

C. GOODNIGHT.

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UTAH.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
*Salt Lake City, February, 20, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, requesting that I furnish the Department with such information as I might be able regarding the buffalo in its natural state, and in the public parks or private herds throughout the State of Utah.

Replying thereto, I have the honor to inform you that upon receipt of your letter I addressed a letter to Hon. John E. Dooly, of Salt Lake City, requesting full information from him concerning the buffalo on Antelope Island in the Great Salt Lake, and which are the private property of Mr. Dooly and a number of other gentlemen. These buffalo are all that I have any knowledge of within this State. I now have pleasure in forwarding you herewith copy of Mr. Dooly's letter in reply to mine, which gives a detailed account of the buffalo on the island.

Very respectfully,

HEBER M. WELLS,  
*Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, \*Washington, D. C.*

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, *February 19, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your inquiry I beg to state that at the present time we have on Antelope Island the following full-blood buffalo. They are all in excellent condition:

	Bulls.	Cows.	Total.
Yearlings.....	2	2	4
Two year olds.....	2	1	3
Three year olds.....	2	2	4
Four year olds.....	2	2	4
Five year olds.....	2	2	4
Six year olds.....	1	2	3
Seven year olds.....	2	2	4
Total herd.....	13	13	26

We also have one half-breed—that is, a cross between a buffalo bull and a Hereford cow. It is a male, two years old, and was exhibited at the State fair last year.

These animals all subsist on natural grasses indigenous to this intermountain country, and hence possess all the beauty of the buffalo that roamed the plains along the Platte.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN E. DOOLEY.

Hon. HEBER M. WELLS,  
*Governor of Utah.*

#### VERMONT.

STATE OF VERMONT, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
*Ludlow, February 24, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of recent date inclosing a copy of a resolution of the Senate dated the 30th ultimo in reference to the buffalo and bison in the United States.

I have the honor to report that as far as I know or am able to learn there is not a single buffalo in its natural state or in a public park or private herd in the State of Vermont.

I have the honor to be, very truly, yours,

WILLIAM W. STICKNEY.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

#### VIRGINIA.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE,  
*Richmond, Va., February 26, 1902.*

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 3d instant, together with a copy of a resolution of the Senate, I beg to say that I know of no buffalo or American bison in this State. I am unable to ascertain that a single animal of this species is in any of our parks.

Referring to the concluding lines of the resolution, it seems to me eminently desirable that the Congress of the United States should take proper steps to prevent the extermination of these animals.

Yours, very truly,

A. J. MONTAGUE.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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WASHINGTON.

STATE OF WASHINGTON, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

*Olympia, February 11, 1902.*

SIR: In reply to your favor of the 3d instant, regarding existing herds of buffalo in this State, I have the honor to say: There are no buffalo in their natural state in Washington State, neither are there any buffalo in the public or private parks. It has come to my notice, however, that a small herd of buffalo was shipped into the city of Seattle from, I believe, British Columbia, for the purpose of speculation, the shippers believing that they could be sold to advantage for Christmas meats, and to the owners of private parks there. The animals arrived too late for the Christmas trade, however, and, being placed on exhibition, occasioned considerable attention from the public. Later, one or two, having been injured, had to be killed; the other day the majority of the remaining herd were slaughtered for meat, while the two or three still existing are in the possession of the private owners with no apparent future before them except the butcher's block.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

J. HOWARD WATSON,

*Secretary to Governor McBride.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

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WEST VIRGINIA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

*Charleston, W. Va., February 11, 1902.*

SIR: Replying to your favor of February 3, making inquiry as to the buffalo in their natural state and in the public parks or private herds in the State of West Virginia, would say that, so far as I am advised, there are no bison or buffalo at present within this State, either in public parks or private herds.

Very respectfully, yours,

A. B. WHITE, *Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,

*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*



WISCONSIN.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBER,  
*Madison, Wis., March 7, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: I desire to acknowledge receipt of your favor inclosing copy of resolution of the Senate.

The buffalo and bison are wholly extinct in the State of Wisconsin.

Yours, very truly,

ROBERT M. LAFOLLETTE.

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.*

**Note.**—Since the receipt of the foregoing communication the following additional data relative to buffalo in Wisconsin has been received from the Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

Baraboo, Wis., in possession of private owner, "Ringling Brothers' World's Greatest Show," pure-blood buffalo.....	1
Cochrane, Wis., in possession of private owners, Huber Brothers:	
Pure-blood buffalo .....	9
Mixed blood.....	19

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WYOMING.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, *Cheyenne, February 8, 1902.*

SIR: Your favor of the 3d instant addressed to the governor, in the absence of the governor from the United States, comes to me for reply.

There are no buffalo in this State save those in the National Park, and such of those which stray away. During the winter months many of the park buffalo leave the park and go principally into the contiguous country on the east and south, known as Jackson Hole. While under our State statute it is a felony to kill buffalo, still the Indians from the Shoshone Reservation, which borders on Jackson Hole, and some white hunters do kill them.

This herd is rapidly being depleted, not only from depredations mentioned, but because of inbreeding, and also their confinement, owing to the settlement of the country, to a section not adapted for winter range.

The only method I know for the prevention of their ultimate extinction in the near future is the infusion of new blood, removal during winter to a proper range where food and shelter abounds, and finally domestication under Government protection.

There are no domesticated buffalo in the State, and I know of no one who has attempted it.

Very respectfully,

FENIMORE SEATTERTON,  
*Acting Governor.*

Hon. E. A. HITCHCOCK,  
*Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

## YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK,  
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,  
*Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyo., February 25, 1902.*

SIR: Referring to the Senate resolution calling for information relative to the remaining buffalo in the United States and Canada, I have the honor to submit the following report:

Buffalo now living in this section of the United States are distributed as follows:

Running wild in the Yellowstone Park .....	22
In captivity at Yellowstone Lake, owned by Mr. E. C. Waters .....	4
In captivity at Henrys Lake, Idaho, owned by Mr. R. W. Rock.....	4
On Flathead Reservation, Mont., or in vicinity, about .....	300
Total .....	330

The herd referred to in your indorsement dated February 1, 1902, as owned by Conrad Brothers, of Great Falls, Mont., is located at Kalispell, near the Flathead Agency. It is included in the number 300 on or near the agency.

The number, 22, given as running wild in the Yellowstone Park were recently definitely located on the head of Pelican Creek, by our scouts. There are probably a few more in the park, and an effort will be made in a few days, when the conditions are more favorable, to definitely fix the entire number.

It was reported to me that there was a herd on the Cheyenne River Agency, and I wrote to the man who was supposed to be the owner of this herd for information concerning it, but as yet have received no reply from him.

I inclose herewith a copy of the letter from Mr. W. H. Smead, of the Flathead Agency, and also copy of an extract from an article published November 10, 1900, in the Boston Evening Transcript, by Mr. Mark Sullivan. It is believed that Mr. Sullivan's figures are very nearly correct.

Very respectfully,  
JNO. PITCHER,  
*Major, Sixth Cavalry, Acting Superintendent.*

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C.*

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,  
*Jocko, Mont., Flathead Agency, February 14, 1902.*

DEAR SIR: Your valued favor of 11th at hand, and I thank you for the information relative to buffalo. I hope I may be able to make an exchange with some person who has some desirable bulls, and thus be improving the grade of animals.

I have not received any communication from the honorable Secretary making inquiries relative to the buffalo of this reservation. It is my understanding that we have the largest herd here now in existence, and in a prosperous condition, numbering over 200 head.

This herd formerly had nearly 300 head, but the settling of an estate owning one-half of them has caused a part of them to be sold, Messrs. Conrad Brothers, of whom you speak, having purchased about 30 of them, and the Northern Live Stock Company, of Missoula, another 30 head, while some few have been peddled out. I think, however, those sold to above-mentioned parties are in good hands and will continue to breed them.

Relative to your purchasing a few head from here for the purpose of starting a new herd in the park, I beg to say that if you will advise me of about the number you would want, and state how many bulls and the number of cows, I will try and ascertain what price they can be purchased at. You will also advise me if you wish them comparatively gentle, or if you are particular in regard to this.

I think your idea of picking up the calves when young and placing them in an inclosure where they can be handled is the proper way of domesticating them. We find, however, that our buffalo are quite easily tamed, but I presume yours must be much wilder than ours, for it is very easy for horsemen to ride right in among the herd and corral them.

If you were to purchase some from here, I would think it wise for you, if you wish to domesticate them, to either build an inclosure that would hold them, or keep a herder with them during the daytime and corral them nights, until such time as they become accustomed to their new surroundings and satisfied on their new range.

I shall be pleased to hear from you further, and any information I can furnish you, will be pleased to do so.

Very respectfully,

W. H. SMEAD.

Maj. JOHN PITCHER,  
*Acting Superintendent, Mammoth Hot Springs, Wyo.*

*Extract from article printed in Boston Evening Transcript, October 10, 1900, headed "The Bison still lives."*

The buffaloes now living are distributed as follows:

Herd of W. C. Whitney, Lenox Park, Massachusetts.....	17
Central Park, New York.....	4
Van Cortlandt Park, New York.....	1
Glen Island, New York.....	11
Herd of David J. Gardner, East Hampton, L. I.....	3
Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	2
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.....	14
Rocky Mountain Park, Banff, Canada.....	26
Public parks in Colorado.....	3
City Park, Winnipeg, Canada.....	4
Zoological Garden, Philadelphia.....	15
Elitch's Gardens, Denver.....	2
Austin Corbin herd, Blue Mountain Forest, New Hampshire.....	98
R. W. Rock, Lake, Fremont County, Idaho.....	4
Zoological Garden, London.....	1
Duke of Bedford, Woburn Park, Bedfordshire, England.....	12
Other points in England.....	13
Bronx Park, New York.....	11
In France, Belgium, and Holland.....	14
In Germany.....	46
In Australia.....	12
In Russia.....	2
Allard herd, Flathead Lake, Montana.....	259
Jones-Goodnight herd, Armstrong County, Tex.....	110
Herd of E. E. Conrad, Kalispell, Mont.....	30
Middle and Egeria parks, Colorado.....	21
Lost Park, Colorado.....	9
Running wild, west of Great Slave Lake, Canada.....	200
Scattering.....	50
Yellowstone Park.....	30
Total.....	1,024

MARK SULLIVAN.

## SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,  
Washington, February 6, 1902.

SIR: In reply to your communication of the 1st instant, inclosing a copy of Senate resolution of January 30, 1902, I have to say that the Institution has in its charge in Washington but 11 buffalo, of undoubtedly pure blood; but that it has, by understanding with the Secretary of the Interior, endeavored to promote the preservation of the herd in the Yellowstone National Park by having built there at its own expense, in 1895, a large stockade, inclosing several hundred acres, in which it was proposed to turn a part or the whole of the herd (then estimated to number 200 or more) inhabiting the wilder portions of the park. The plan of inclosing the animals was intended both for security against unlicensed hunters and to "gentle" those which might later be transmitted to Washington.

It is much to be wished that this could have been done, for the herd has since been more than decimated, and has, it is supposed, been reduced to a very small number, while the stockade has literally rotted away without a single animal having been secured for it.

I beg to ask your attention to a copy of my last annual report, transmitted herewith, in which I have marked certain pages referring to this subject, which I should be very glad to know had your personal attention.

I beg to inclose also a list, compiled from various sources, of the American buffalo existing wild or in captivity in this country and in Europe, numbering nearly 1,400 individuals, with the remark that I am not certain in every case of the pureness of the strain. I have indicated with an asterisk those for which I have reason to think the strain is pure, without intending this to the prejudice of the others, with which I have less acquaintance.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. P. LANGLEY,  
*Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, D. C..

## RUNNING WILD.

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming.....	*30
Region about Salt River, Peace River, and Great Slave Lake, Dominion of Canada .....	*500-570

## IN CAPTIVITY.

United States:	
Adrian, Mich., herd of Page Woven Wire Fence Company .....	*10
Armstrong County, Tex., herd of Charles Goodnight .....	*100
Blue Mountain Park, N. H., herd of Austin Corbin .....	*98
Buffalo, N. Y., City Park .....	*5
Chicago, Ill., Lincoln Park menagerie .....	*10
Cincinnati, Ohio, Zoological Gardens, estimated .....	*8
Cochrane, Wis., herd of Huber Bros. ....	9
Denver, Colo., City Park .....	3
Denver, Colo., Elitch's gardens .....	2
Detroit, Mich., City Park .....	3
Dodge, Nebr., private owners .....	10
East Hampton, Long Island, N. Y., herd of David J. Gardner .....	3
Flathead Reservation, Mont., herd of Allard & Pablo .....	*200

IN CAPTIVITY—continued.

United States—Continued.	
Glen Island, N. Y., herd of John H. Starin .....	11
Great Salt Lake, Utah, herd on island, private owners, estimated.....	10
Kalispel, Mont., herd of E. E. Conrad.....	30
Leslie, S. Dak., private owners.....	45
Lenox Park, Mass., herd of W. C. Whitney.....	*17
New York City—	
Central Park.....	*4
Prospect Park, Brooklyn.....	2
Van Cortlandt Park.....	*1
Zoological Park.....	*11
Philadelphia, Pa., Zoological Gardens .....	*15
Pittsburg, Pa., City Park .....	*4
San Francisco, Cal., Golden Gate Park .....	14
St. Louis, Mo., City Park .....	3
Washington, D. C., National Zoological Park .....	*11
Game preserves, traveling menageries, and owners not mentioned, estimated .....	25
Dominion of Canada:	
Banff, Alberta, Canadian National Park .....	26
Winnipeg, Manitoba, City Park .....	4
Other countries:	
Australia .....	12
Belgium, France, and Holland .....	14
England—	
London, Zoological Gardens .....	1
London, Woburn Park, Bedfordshire, herd of Duke of Bedford .....	12
London, other points not enumerated.....	13
Germany .....	46
Russia.....	2

RECAPITULATION.

Buffalo running wild in the United States.....	30
Buffalo running wild in the Dominion of Canada .....	570
Total number of buffalo running wild.....	<u>600</u>
Buffalo in captivity in the United States .....	664
Buffalo in captivity in the Dominion of Canada.....	30
Buffalo in captivity in North America .....	694
Buffalo in captivity in other countries .....	100
Total number of buffalo in captivity .....	<u>794</u>
Total number of buffalo in existence.....	<u>1,394</u>

**Note.**—This statement is included merely for the purpose of showing the estimated number of buffalo on February 6, 1902, the date of letter of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. The difference in numbers as shown in this statement and as ascertained by the Secretary of the Interior through correspondence is set forth in the tabulated statement forming part of the report of the Secretary of the Interior on this resolution.

[Excerpt from the report of S. P. Langley, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, for the year ended June 30, 1901.]

NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK.

The Secretary recalls to the Regents that the primary purpose for which they sanctioned the establishment of the National Zoological Park was embodied in its name. It was to be a "national" one, and it was not for the city of Washington only, but to be the means of preserving the great animals of the country, and particularly of the North and West, which were in danger of extinction, and it was to exist quite as much for Idaho or Oregon as for the District of Columbia.

It is earnestly to be hoped that Congress will carry out the plan originally urged

upon it, of treating this park as it treats the National Museum—that is, as something not existing for the benefit of the District chiefly, nor properly to be maintained by the taxation of its inhabitants. In any case it is to be known that while the National Park has been of a great deal of incidental use to Washington as an admirable place for health, recreation, and entertainment, accessible to those who can only go on foot, and offering such charm of scenery as no other public park under such conditions possesses, yet that one of the principal purposes for which it was founded—the preservation from extinction of the national animal races—has not been considered by Congress. About this the Secretary can express himself no better now than he did in his report for 1890, in which, referring to the history of similar attempts, he said:

“In the early part of this century a naturalist traveling in Siberia stood by the mutilated body of a mammoth still undecayed, which the melting of the frozen gravel had revealed, and to the skeleton of which large portions of flesh, skin, and hair still clung. The remains were excavated and transported many hundred miles across the frozen waste, and at last reached the Imperial Museum at St. Petersburg, where, through all these years, the mounted skeleton has justly been regarded as the greatest treasure of that magnificent collection.

“Scientific memoirs, popular books, theological works, poems—in short, a whole literature—has come into existence with this discovery as its text. No other event in all the history of such subjects has excited a greater or more permanent interest outside of purely scientific circles; for the resurrection of this relic of a geologic time in a condition analogous to that in which the bodies of contemporaneous animals are daily seen brings home to the mind of the least curious observer the reality of a long extinct race with a vividness which no fossils or petrifications of the ordinary sort can possibly equal.

“Now, I am assured by most competent naturalists that few, if any, of those not particularly devoted to the study of American animals realize that changes have already occurred or are on the point of taking place in our own characteristic fauna compared with which the disappearance from it of the mammoth was insignificant. That animal was common to all northern lands in its day. The practical domestication of the elephant gives to everyone the opportunity of observing a gigantic creature closely allied to the mammoth, and from which he may gain an approximately correct idea of it. But no such example is at hand in the case of the bison, the pronghorn antelope, the elk, the Rocky Mountain goat, and many more of our vanishing races.

“The student of even the most modern text-books learns that the characteristic larger animals of the United States are those just mentioned, with the moose, the grizzly bear, the beaver, and if we include marine forms and arctic American animals we may add the northern fur seal, the Pacific walrus, the California sea elephant, the manatee, and still others.

“With one or two exceptions out of this long list, men now living can remember when each of these animals was reasonably abundant within its natural territory. It is within the bounds of moderation to affirm that, unless Congress places some check on the present rate of destruction, there are men now living who will see the time when the animals enumerated will be practically extinct or exterminated within the limits of the United States. Already the census of some of them can be expressed in three figures.

“The fate of the bison, or American buffalo, is typical of them all. ‘Whether we consider this noble animal,’ says Audubon, ‘as an object of the chase or as an article of food for man, it is decidedly the most important of all our American contemporary quadrupeds.’

“At the middle of the last century this animal pastured in Pennsylvania and Virginia, and even at the close of the century ranged over the whole Mississippi Valley and farther west wherever pasturage was to be found. At the present time a few hundred survivors represent the millions of the last century, and we should not have even these few hundred within our territory had it not been for the wise action of Congress in providing for them a safe home in the Yellowstone Park.

“Now, for several reasons it has been comparatively easy to trace the decline of the buffalo population. The size of the animal, its preference for open country, the sportsman’s interest in it, and its relations to the food supply of the Western Indians, all led to the observation and record of changes; and accordingly I have made special mention of this animal in representing the advantages of a national zoological park where it might be preserved; but this is by no means the only characteristic creature now threatened with speedy extinction.

“The moose is known to be at the present time a rare animal in the United States, but is in less immediate danger than some others. The elk is vigorously hunted and

is no longer easily obtained, even in its most favored haunts. The grizzly bear is believed to be rapidly approaching extinction outside of the Yellowstone Park, where, owing to the assiduous care of those in charge, both it and the elk are still preserved. The mountain sheep and goat, which inhabit less accessible regions, are becoming more and more rare, while the beaver has retreated from a vast former area to such secluded haunts that it may possibly survive longer than the other species which I have just enumerated, and which are but a portion of those in imminent danger of extinction.

"Among the marine forms the manatee still exists, but although not exterminated, it is in immediate danger of becoming so, like the California sea elephant, a gigantic creature, often of greater bulk than the elephant, which has suffered the fate of complete extinction within a few past years; at least it is uncertain whether a single individual actually survives. The Pacific walrus, upon which a large native population has always in great part depended for food and hides, is rapidly following the sea elephant, and so on with other species.

"This appalling destruction is not confined to mammals. Disregarding the birds of song and plumage, to which the fashions of the milliner have brought disaster, nearly all the larger and more characteristic American birds have suffered in the same way as their four-footed contemporaries. The fate of the great auk is familiar to all naturalists; but it is not so well known that the great California vulture and several of the beautiful sea fowl of our coasts have met the same fate, and that the wild pigeons, whose astonishing flocks were dwelt upon by Audubon and others in such remarkable descriptions and which were long the wonder of American travelers, with the less known, but magnificent ivory-billed woodpecker, and the pretty Carolina parakeet, have all become, if not extinct, among the rarest of birds.

"Apart from the commercial value of its skins, the tax upon which has paid for the cost of our vast Alaskan territory, the singular habits and teeming millions of the northern fur seal have excited general interest even among those who are not interested in natural history. In 1849 these animals abounded from Lower California to the lonely Alaskan isles, and it had been supposed that the precautions taken by the Government for their protection on the breeding grounds of the Pribilof Islands would preserve permanently the still considerable remnant which existed after the purchase of Alaska and the destruction of the southern rookeries. But it is becoming too evident that the greed of the hunters and the devastation caused by the general adoption of the method of pursuing them in the open sea, destroying indiscriminately mothers and offsprings, is going to bring these hopes to naught.

"For most of these animals, therefore, it may be regarded as certain that, unless some small remnant be preserved in a semidomesticated state, a few years will bring utter extinction. The American of the next generation, when questioned about the animals once characteristic of his country, will then be forced to confess that with the exception of a few insignificant creatures, ranking as vermin, this broad continent possesses none of those species which once covered it, since the present generation will have completed the destruction of them all."

During the eleven years that have elapsed since these paragraphs were written, the writer has presented these considerations every session with the insistence it seemed to him their importance deserved, until of late years he has had to feel that the opportunity for saving this remnant, which was going more and more each year, had in some respects finally gone. The great Kadiak bear, the largest carnivorous animal upon the planet, since the report above quoted was written, has been driven farther and farther into the interior, until a specimen is now unprocureable except by the fitting out of a costly expedition, with the remote chance of obtaining a single adult, though such an expedition will probably be more successful in procuring the young.

Something much like this may be said of the giant moose and of other of our semiarctic fauna. The buffalo is so nearly gone, even from its shelter in the Yellowstone National Park, that the stockade which the Institution erected there to secure and "gentle" part of the few buffalo remaining is falling down without a single one ever having been in it. Taught by the hopelessness of previous applications, the Secretary has limited his request for this purpose to an immediate appropriation of \$15,000, with the now faint hope of securing some of the young of these vanishing creatures—the great bear, the great moose, and the like. The Secretary is prepared to soon abandon recommendations which have been urged for nearly ten years, not only because they have been so far made in vain, but because some term must be set in which they will have, too, evidently grown useless from the disappearance of the animal races in question.

As to the best means of securing the protection of these races, he has acquired in this long effort some practical knowledge of the difficulties and of the simple but effective remedy which can be applied. The subject is too large a one, however, to

treat here, and he will only say that these creatures, if secured and transported immediately from their native haunts, are most unlikely to live under the conditions of civilization. They are, on the contrary, very likely to live and even to perpetuate their species if taken with care and kept surrounded by the protection that experience and common sense suggest; and both these mean the continuance of the present National Zoological Park here under the eyes of Congress, but with a simultaneous provision for first bringing up the wild animals in a commodious place of confinement in the country where they belong (one in Alaska for instance), large enough to allow them to live without a sense of captivity, on their ordinary food, and in their ordinary climate. This place might be a small ranch, where the things of vital importance after their capture and security—namely, their being “gentled” and accustomed to the sight of the keeper before being transferred to Washington—can be carried out. Such a ranch can be established at a small cost, which will not be likely to be exceeded, and Congress can be assured that it is not entering into an indefinite future expense if this initial one be approved.

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### BUFFALO IN CANADA AND COUNTRIES OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, March 13, 1902.*

SIR: Referring to your letter of February 1 last, requesting information in regard to the American bison or buffalo in the Dominion of Canada and the steps taken to preserve them, I have the honor to inclose copy of a dispatch from the consul-general at Ottawa, transmitting a communication on the subject from the Canadian department of the interior.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

DAVID J. HILL, *Acting Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Ottawa, March 10, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report in reply to your dispatch No. 306, dated Washington, D. C., February 7, 1902, requesting certain information called for by a Senate resolution dated January 30, 1902, in regard to the buffalo in the Dominion of Canada, that I have received a report from the acting deputy minister of the interior, which I trust will give you the information sought.

I have the honor, etc.,

CHARLES E. TURNER, *Consul-General.*

HON. DAVID J. HILL.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, CANADA,  
*Ottawa, March 5, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, and of its stated inclosures, and to give you, in compliance with your request, the following information with regard to the subject thereof, namely, the steps which have been taken by the Dominion Government for the preservation of the American bison or buffalo.

The attention of the Dominion government was called some years ago, by explorers who had visited the northern portions of the district of Athabasca, to the existence of a herd of wild buffalo, whose habitat is now known to be at some short distance from Fort Smith, on the Slave River. The animals were reported to be very fine specimens of their kind and steps were at once taken by the Government to provide effectual measures for the preservation of the herd. By special legislative enactments a close season, during which the killing of these animals is absolutely prohibited, has



been maintained and extended from time to time, and with the cooperation of the Northwest Mounted Police, the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company, the missionaries and traders in the district in question, it is gratifying to note that the Indians and halfbreeds, who would be more likely to kill the animals for their meat and pelts, seem to have become fully aware of the provisions of the law in this respect and have so far shown every disposition to comply with the same.

The department has not as yet definite information as to the size of the herd in question, but I understand that the animals are of pure blood, and that the steps which have been taken for their preservation and increase will prove successful.

It may be further pointed out that it is the intention to establish and maintain at the Rocky Mountains Park of Canada a preserve for animals that are indigenous to the country, such as buffalo, elk, moose, goats, etc., with a view to their preservation and increase, and a number of these animals have already been secured for that purpose. In the month of October, 1897, a buffalo bull and 2 cows were presented to the park by Mr. T. G. Blackstock, King's counsel of Toronto, and in the month of June following, a herd of 13 head owned by the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, was also donated to the park, making 16 head in all. Necessary arrangements had previously been made in the park for their reception and proper keeping, and they have continued since, and are now, in a very healthy condition. The natural increase of the herd since 1898 has been 15, bringing up the total number to 31, or an increase of, say, 100 per cent in three years.

From these results it would appear that the efforts put forth by this Department to preserve the buffalo from total extinction will prove successful.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

T. G. ROTHWELL,  
*Acting Deputy Minister Interior.*

NOTE.—Since the receipt of the foregoing communication, the following additional data, relative to buffalo in Canada, has been received from Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

Great Slave Lake, Athabasca, Canada, pure-blood buffalo or bison, running wild	600
Winnipeg, Manitoba, in captivity, Silver Heights Park, pure-blood buffalo	9
Bobcaygeon, Ontario, Canada, in possession of private owner, Mossom Boyd Company, pure-blood buffalo, 1, mixed blood	21

**BUFFALO IN EUROPE.**

The following information in relation to the buffalo or bison, in countries outside of North America, prepared by Carl Hagenback, of Hamburg, Germany, has been received from the superintendent of the Zoological Park, District of Columbia, through the Smithsonian Institution:

Country.	Pure blood.	Mixed blood.	Total.
England	34	11	45
France	1		1
Germany	60	2	62
Holland and Belgium	14		14
Hungary	2		2
Russia	3		3
Scandinavia		1	1
Total	114	14	128



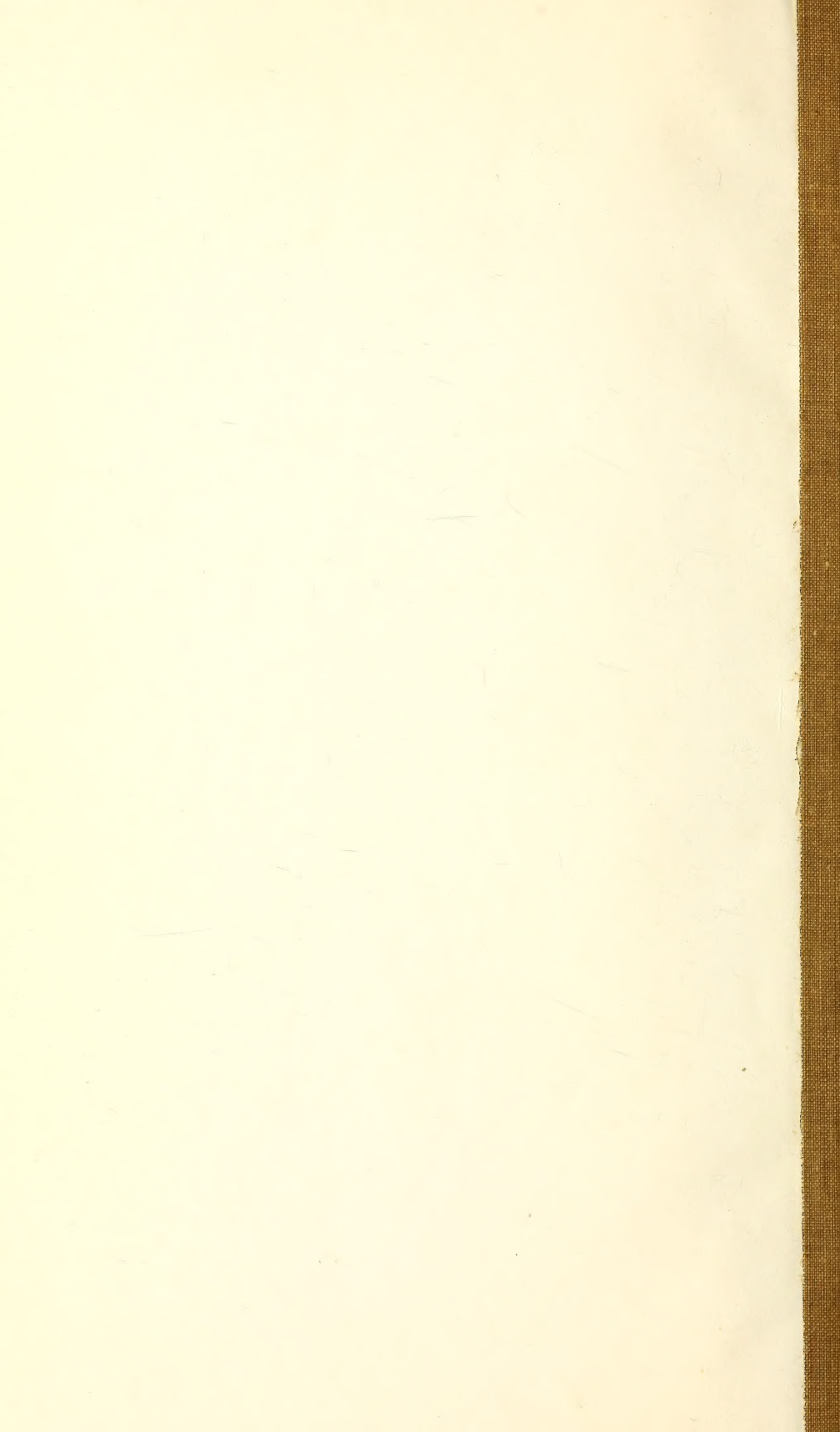
















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